स्थित आयात और निर्यात नियंत्रक के कार्यालय ने भारतीय उत्पादों के निर्यातकों के लिए आरम्भ की गई "निर्यातायात पत्रक योजना" के अधीन फर्जी कम्पनियों को करीब दो करोड़ रुपये से अधिक के निर्यातायात पत्रक जारी कर दिये हैं;

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इस मामले की जांच किस एजेंसी द्वारा की जा रही है और इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या यह भी सच है कि एक संसद-सदस्य ने इस संबंध में प्रधान मंत्री को पत्र लिख कर इस पूरे मामले की उच्च-स्तरीय जांच कराने की मांग की है;

(ङ) दोषी अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में ब्यौरा क्या है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० चिदम्बरम्): (क) से (च) सरकार को जाली दस्तावेजों के आधार पर निर्यात आयात पत्रक जारी करने की रिपोर्टों के बारे में जानकारी है। जांच करने पर यह पाया गया है कि संयुक्त मुख्य नियंत्रक, आयात एवं निर्यात का कार्यालय, केन्द्रीय लाइसेन्सिंग प्राधिकरण, नई दिल्ली द्वारा उन दस्तावेजों के आधार पर 53,92,000 रुपए मूल्य के दस निर्यात आयात पत्रक जारी किए गए थे, जिन्हें बाद में जाली पाया गया। इन निर्यात-आयात पत्रकों को निरस्त कर दिया गया था। पांच निर्यात-आयात पत्रकों के संबंध में इन मामलों को समुचित कार्रवाई के लिए पहले ही पुलिस को सौंप दिया गया है। अन्य मामलों को भी इसी तरह की कारवाई के लिए पुलिस को सौंपा जा रहा है।

India's Fish Trade

1842. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the share of India's fish trade in world market;

(b) what was the quantity and value of fish exported during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(c) what measures Government propose to take to boost India's fish export?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) The export of marine products from India constituted 1.09% of total global fish trade during 1989.

(b) the export of marine products from India were:

	Quantity in MTs	Value Rs. (Crores)
1988-89	99777	597.85
1989-90	110843	634.99
1990-91	139419	893.37

(c) In order to boost marine exports, Government is implementing various schemes through MPEDA in the following sectors:

(i) Culture fisheries.

(ii) Capture fisheries through diversified fishing.

(iii) Modernisation of seafood industry.

U.S.A.'s requests for giving out protection to American Intellectual Property

1843. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received a spate of requests and advices from the United States of America in regard to giving out protection to the so called "American Intellectual Property";

(b) whether some kinds of stings have been included in the prospective business culture between the two countries;

(c) whether Government of India have expressed its reservations on the subject; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) On 26 May, 1991 the United States Trade Representative (USTR) initiated investigation against India under the Special 301 provisions of the U.S. trade legislation, on grounds of perceived deficiencies in India's patent law, trademark and copyright regimes and the enforcement of intellectual property law. The United States also represented that access for US motion pictures was restricted through quotas, fees and other barriers.

Government are satisfied that our laws relating to trademarks and copyright,

together with some amendments proposed to the Copyright Act, are adequate. A decision has also been taken to improve market access for motion pictures and videos. As far as the issue of patents is concerned, attention of the United States has been drawn to the fact that this is the subject of mutilateral negotiations, which have yet to be concluded.

On 26 February, 1992, the USTR announced the decision to terminate the investigation against India under Section 301.

Transfer of the Management of Tea Gardens running in West Bengal

1844. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have a plan to transfer the management of four tea gardens being run by the Tea Trading Corporation of India in West Bengal to the State Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for such transfer; and

(c) whether Government are aware that a few tea gardens are being run by the West Bengal Government already, and all these tea gardens are in a bad shape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) In view of the losses suffered by Tea Trading Corporation of India (TTCI) on account of its garden operations, various alternatives for management of TTCI's gardens are under the consideration of Government.

(c) Government is aware that West Bengal Tea Development Corporation Ltd. is managing some gardens in West Bengal. As per provisional figures their gardens had incurred losses in 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91.

Functions of STC

1845. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what will be the function of the State Trading Corporation after the implementation of the New Economic and Trade Policy; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the STC has reduced the manpower during the last six months?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) STC would continue to handle exports, imports and domestic trading operations on a competitive basis with due thrust in the non-canalised sector.

(b) 553 employees in STC have voluntarily retired under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme between the period 1.6.89 and 19.8.91.

Raunaq Singh Committee Report on Free Trade Port

1846. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Raunaq Singh Committee report on Free Trade Port has been submitted to Government;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that as reported Goa has been listed on the top for this Free Trade Port as it had enjoyed the same facility prior to liberation of Goa in 1961?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Detailed information is available in the Report of the Advisory Committee, copies of which have been placed in the Parliament Library.

Sino-Indian Trade

1847. SHRI JAGADISH JANI:
SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state: